

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Navajo Birth Cohort Study

Uranium Contamination Stakeholder Workshop

Farmington, New Mexico

Primary Goal: To determine whether exposure to uranium waste affects birth outcomes and child development on the Navajo Nation.



Presenters:

David Begay, Ph.D., Co-PI

Perry H. Charley, SH, Cultural Advisor

Funded from CDC/ATSDR: U01 TS000135
UNM Research Review Committee

**“Comprehensive”
Health Studies?**

2012: Navajo Birth Cohort Study



2010-12 CUE-JTH: medical monitoring



2007: Waxman Hearing

- Other diseases?
- Biological reasons?
- Critical exposure ages?
- Other contamination?
- Early indicators?

2001: DINEH Project 1st Integrated Health Study



Identification of health risks

1940s-60s: Uranium Mining



Community health?



1979: Church Rock Spill

1970s, 80s, 90s: Miners & Millers Studies



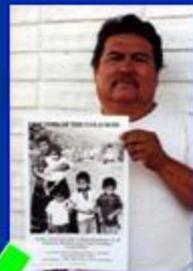
1980s-present: UMTRA/AML

Navajo land use & health?

Tailings covers

1980s: Birth Defects Study

Uranium mining, or other exposures?



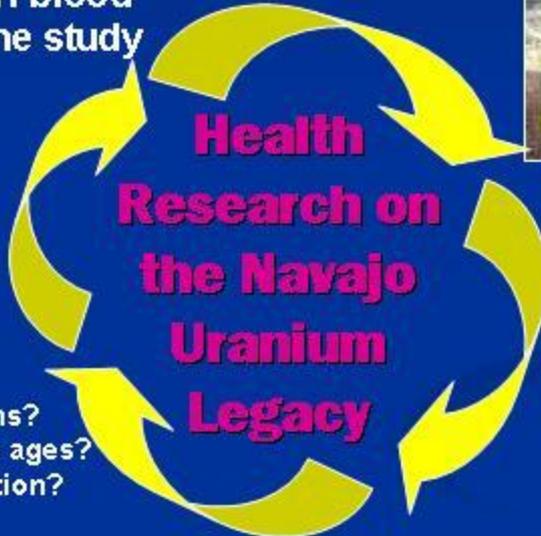
1990s-2000s: Community Actions for Environmental Health

Mid-80s: Limited Livestock Studies (NM)



2003-2007: CRUMP

Health Research on the Navajo Uranium Legacy

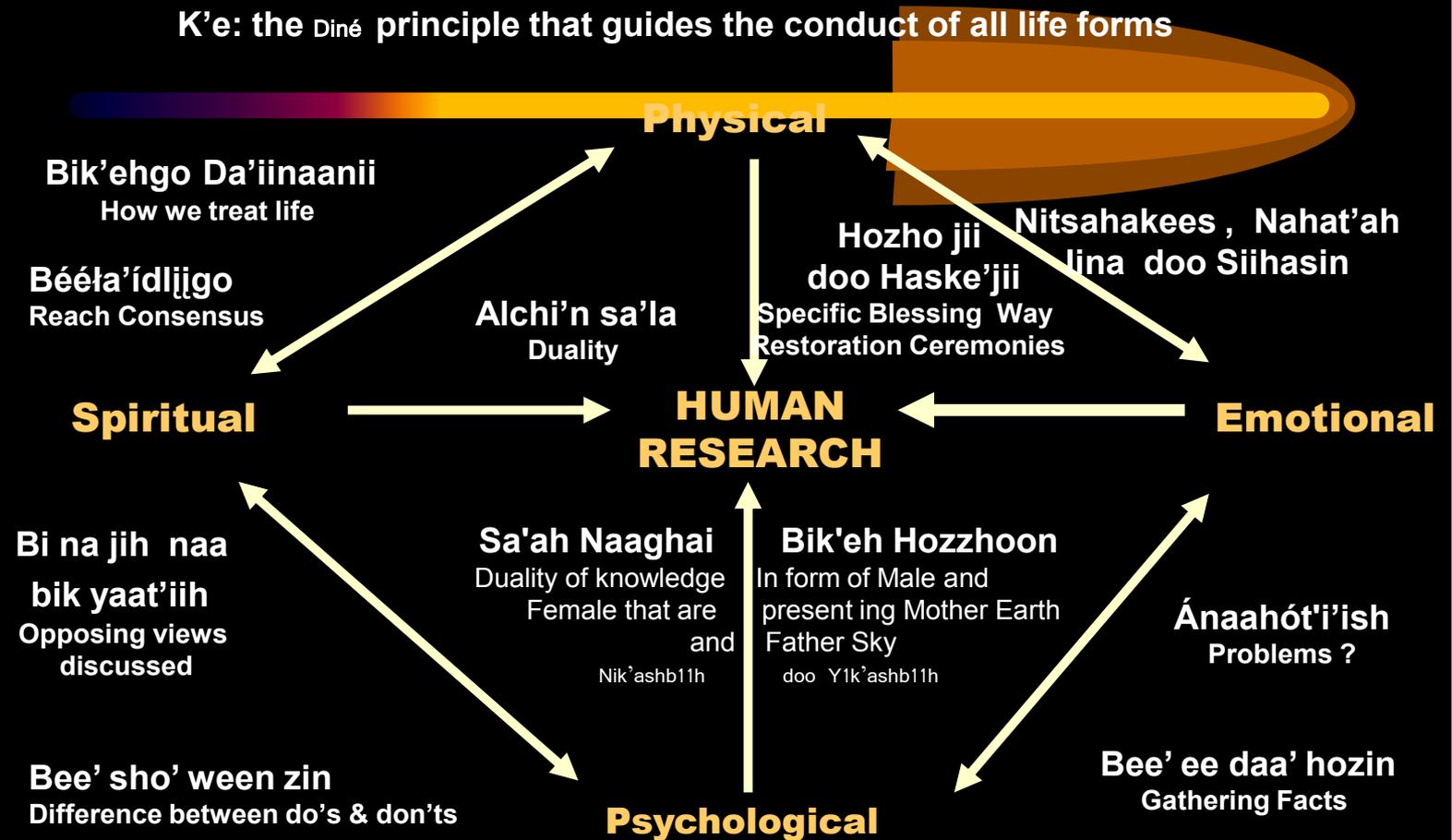


Core Ancient Diné Principles and Values

Which Guide Human and Environmental Research

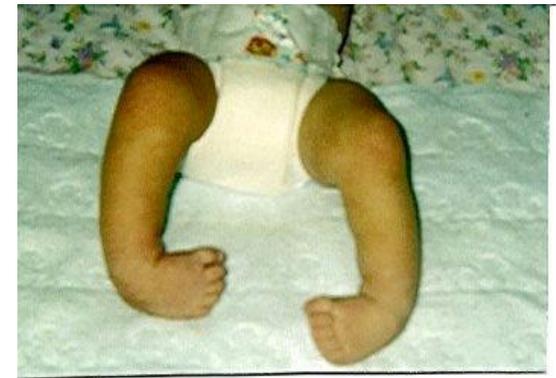
Navajo Wholistic Approach

K'e: the Diné principle that guides the conduct of all life forms



Application of Wisdom and Knowledge of Traditional Practitioners in a Scientific Study

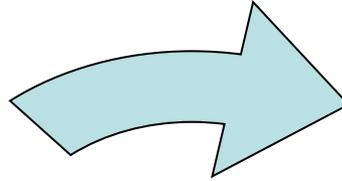
There are many types of traditional healers (Diagnosticians: Crystal gazers, Stargazers, Hand Tremblers, etc; Chanters: Beauty Way, Enemy Way, Yei Be Chei, etc; Herbalists) and the right one must be sought out for the patient (by the family) for specific problems; physical, emotional, mental, etc. These traditional healers are respected elders of the communities and often more trusted than medical professionals.





K'e: the principle that guides the conduct of all life forms

SNBH AND HOZHO JII



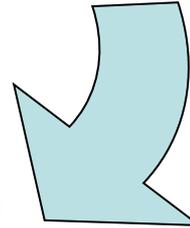
Nitsahakees



anaahot'ih



Alchi' sa'la



**bee' ee daa' hozin
bi na jii naa bik yaat'ih**

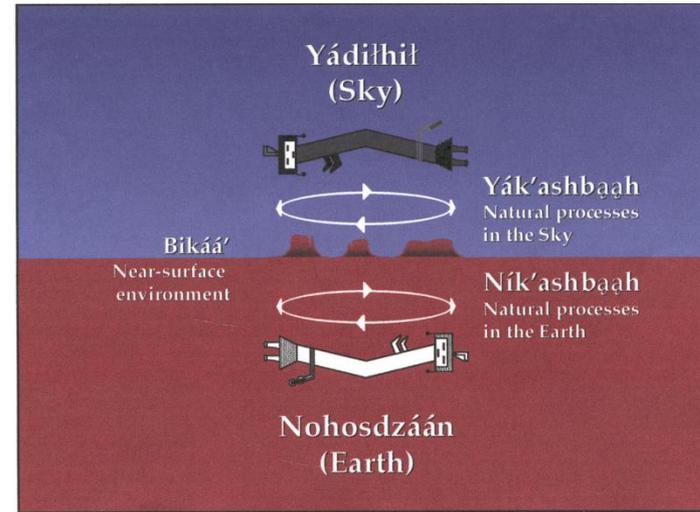


*significan, pl the EPA
times the cancer risk considered
expose children to as much as 46
times the cancer risk considered*



Unacceptable waste disposal

Cultural and Traditional Sensitivity



- TO 47 ts'7d1 al1ahgo bee da'iin1. T'11 a[tso yee hin1 d00 yee had7t'4ego niily1. Diyin Dine'4 1t'4ego, nihim1 nil98go h0l=. H0zh=-go had7t'4. TO a[tahn1shch77n d00 t0 biy11zh a[ch'8'sil1ago doo b22h chin7g00 bits'77s dis-sgo bee hinii'n1 d00 n1nihoosh--[. D77 nihinits4kees nil98go b4n4ilnihgo, d00 baa 1hwily32go bee siihdahasinii d00 bee i[dah0zh0onii daash99 n4el33' bee 1dee n7diild88l.
- **Water is essential for life. Every living thing lives and was created with it. Water is the Holy People and is our Mother. It was created in Beauty. Water Born From Various Sources and The Children of Water are inherently paired in harmony and are unblemished with bodies like clear crystals, thus, the people live and receive nourishment from balanced clean water. We use and remember this in our thoughts and we are entrusted to care for our water with assurance and happiness for a healthy long life.**

Na' 7d7kid?

